

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 03244 141306Z

51

ACTION EUR-25

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FOR SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UK, EEC, PFOR

SUBJECT: "DAILY TELEGRAPH" STORY ON US-UK RELATIONS

1. FOLLOWING ARTICLE BY VINCENT RYDER APPEARS FRONT PAGE
"DAILY TELEGRAPH" MARCH 14, UNDER CAPTION: "KISSINGER
WOOS WILSON IN RIFT WITH EUROPE."

2. BEGIN QUOTE: DR. KISSINGER'S TOP ADVISERS ON
EUROPEAN AFFAIRS, MR. ARTHUR HARTMAN AND MR. HELMUTH
SONNENFELD, ARE FLYING TO LONDON TOMORROW TO CONFER
WITH MR. CALLAGHAN, FOREIGN SECRETARY, ON THE WIDENING
TRANSATLANTIC RIFT.

3. THEIR REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE IN WASHINGTON
THIS WEEKEND WILL BE PART OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S
REVIEW OF ITS WHOLE EUROPEAN POLICY.

4. THERE IS A DISTINCT POSSIBILITY THAT:

PRESIDENT NIXON WILL CALL OFF HIS TRIP TO
EUROPE NEXT MONTH;

THE PROPOSED "DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES" ON
RELATIONS BETWEEN AMERICA AND THE COMMUNITY WILL BE
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PAGE 02 LONDON 03244 141306Z

SHELVED; AND

DR. KISSINGER WILL GIVE UP TRYING TO DEAL WITH
THE COMMUNITY AS A UNIT.

5. WHETHER HE OPTS FOR PERSEVERING WITH THE NINE AS
A WHOLE OR REVERTS TO DEALING WITH THEM INDIVIDUALLY
HE NEEDS TO BE ON GOOD TERMS WITH THE LABOR GOVERNMENT.

6. HE HAS CONVEYED HIS WARM REGARDS TO LONDON AND IS
PAYING FLATTERING ATTENTION TO SIR PETER RAMSBOTHAM,
NEW BRITISH AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON. THE RESPONSE
FROM DOWNING STREET AND THE FOREIGN OFFICE HAS BEEN
CORDIAL BUT NON-COMMITTAL.

7. THE LABOR GOVERNMENT FACES AN AWKWARD CHOICE. IT
IS LESS INCLINED THAN MR. HEATH'S GOVERNMENT TO GIVE
COMMUNITY INTERESTS PRIORITY OVER TRANSATLANTIC
RELATIONS.

8. BUT IF IT ALIENATES THE REST OF THE COMMUNITY IT
WILL RUN INTO MORE TROUBLE IN RENEGOTIATING TERMS
OF MEMBERSHIP.

9. MR. CALLAGHAN HAS SUMMONED ALL BRITISH AMBASSADORS
TO COMMUNITY COUNTRIES TO TALKS IN LONDON NEXT
WEDNESDAY ON THE ISSUE OF RENEGOTIATION AND OTHER
PROBLEMS. SIR PETER RAMSBOTHAM WILL RETURN FROM
WASHINGTON FOR CONSULTATIONS AT THE END OF THE MONTH.

10. MR. CALLAGHAN MUST MAKE HIS FIRST DECISION SOON.
THE COMMUNITY'S PLAN TO CONFER WITH ALL THE ARAB
STATES ON THEIR FUTURE RELATIONS, WHICH HAS ANGERED
DR. KISSINGER, CANNOT GO AHEAD UNTIL MR. CALLAGHAN
GIVES HIS APPROVAL.

11. IF HE GIVES UNCONDITIONAL APPROVAL HE WILL UPSET
DR. KISSINGER. IF HE GIVES A BLANK REFUSAL HE WILL
ANGER THE REST OF THE COMMUNITY AND PROBABLY THE ARABS.

12. A POSSIBLE COMPROMISE WOULD BE AGREEMENT THAT THE
COMMUNITY SHOULD GO AHEAD, ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT
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PAGE 03 LONDON 03244 141306Z

BRITAIN WOULD BLOCK ANY MOVE THAT SEEMED TO CUT ACROSS
DR. KISSINGER'S OWN PLANS FOR DEALING WITH OIL-PRODUCING
COUNTRIES AND HIS PEACE-MAKING EFFORTS IN THE MIDDLE
EAST. END QUOTE

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